

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SS-15 NSC-05 OIC-02 ERDA-05 H-02 /080 W

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R 221410Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1966

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5299

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2866

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC, MARR

SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING MAY 22, 1975:

AGENDA ITEM I, STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROGROUP

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

REF: A. USNATO 2587

B. STATE 113399

1. AT DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING, MAY 22, 1975, EUROGROUP CHAIRMAN  
(MASON, UK) DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

BEGIN TEXT:

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MR CHAIRMAN, THE EUROGROP MET UNDER MY CHAIRMANSHIP IN  
MINISTERIAL SESSION IN LONDON SOME TWO WEEKS AGO ON 7TH MAY. I AM  
GLAD TO BE ABLE TODAY TO TELL THE DPC AT FIRST HAND OF THE MAIN  
POINTS DISCUSSED AND AGREED AT OR MEETING. I AM SURE YOU WILL ALL

HAVE SEEN THE COMMUNIQUE WE ISSUED IN LONDON AT THE END OF THE MEETING. IT EMPHASISED THAT WE SEE THE EUROGROUP DEVELOPING CO-OPERATION AND COLLABORATION AMONG ITS MEMBERS WITHIN THE ALLIANCE FRAME WORK. BUT IT ONLY GIVES A GENERAL PICTURE. YOU MAY BE INTERESTED TO HEAR NOW RATHER MORE OF THE DETAIL.

2. ONE OF THE MAJOR ITEMS ON OUR AGENDA AT THE EUROGROUP MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BRUSSELS IN DECEMBER 1974 WAS A REPORT PREPARED BY A GROUP OF HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS. IT DEALT WITH TRENDS IN EUROPEAN DEFENCE; AND THE CO-OPERATIVE MEASURES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE SECURITY OF NATO EUROPE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ALLIANCE. THIS SAME HIGH LEVEL WORKING GROUP SUBMITTED A FURTHER REPORT FOR OUR MEETING IN LONDON. THIS SECOND REPORT CONCENTRATED ON THE OBJECTIVES AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE EUROGROUP SUB-GROUPS. AND IT IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF WAYS IN WHICH THESE MIGHT BE IMPROVED. WE WELCOMED THESE PROPOSALS. WE AGREED THAT THEY SHOULD BE FOLLOWED UP BY THE SUB-GROUPS CONCERNED IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.

3. WE ALSO AGREED THAT, AS DEFENCE MINISTERS, WE WOULD CONTINUE TO PLAY A DIRECT ROLE IN INITIATING AND REGULATING THE WORK OF THE SUB-GROUPS. FOR THEY ARE WORKING ON IMPORTANT CO-OPERATIVE ISSUES. WE ENCOURAGE THE GROUPS TO BRING TO OUR PERSONAL ATTENTION AT ANY TIME PROBLEMS WHICH ARE HINDERING THEIR WORK. SUCH READY ACCESS TO MINISTERS IS IMPORTANT IF THE WORK OF OFFICIALS IS TO REFLECT THE POLITICAL WILL OF MINISTERS TO MAKE PROGRESS.

4. WE DISCUSSED THE ACTIVITIES OF EACH OF THE EUROGROUP SUB-GROUPS IN TURN. AS BEFORE, THE MINISTER WHOSE COUNTRY PROVIDES THE CHAIRMAN FOR A SUB-GROUP REPORTED ON THE RECENT WORK OF THAT SUB-GROUP. IN GENERAL, WE WERE MUCH ENCOURAGED BY THE SUBSTANTIVE WORK NOW IN HAND OVER A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES. BUT WE ALSO TOOK A CRITICAL LOOK AT SUBJECTS WHERE, FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS, WE HAVE NOT MADE AS MUCH PROGRESS AS WE WOULD LIKE. TO ILLUSTRATE THIS, I WANT PARTICULARLY TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING THREE AREAS:  
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A. IN EUROTRAINING WE HAVE ENTERED INTO A WIDE RANGE OF MULTI-LATERAL ARRANGEMENTS. THIS IS GOOD PROGRESS. BUT THERE IS A LOT MORE TO BE DONE. ULTIMATELY, WE HOPE TO DEVELOP JOINT FACILITIES SO THAT NATIONS CAN SAFELY STOP MAINTAINING SEPARATE SCHOOLS OF THEIR OWN. I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED AT THE WAY IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA HAVE BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS GROUP'S WORK. THIS SHOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO TACKLE THE SAME PROBLEMS ON A NATO-WIDE BASIS.

B. WE TOOK A CRITICAL LOOK AT THE ACTIVITIES OF EUROMED. THIS IS THE GROUP CONCERNED WITH INCREASING CO-OPERATION IN MEDICAL SERVICES. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THERE IS SCOPE FOR IMPROVING COLLABORATION IN THIS FIELD. BUT IT

WAS FELT THAT UP TO NOW NATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO STAND IN THE WAY OF PROGRESS. WE ACCORDINGLY AGREED THAT THE SCOPE OF EUROMED'S ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE REVIEWED; AND THAT OUR STAFFS BE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE A LESS EXTREME VIEW OF THE DOCTRINE OF NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS AREA. WE SHALL BE CONSIDERING THIS QUESTION AGAIN AT OUR NEXT MEETING.

C. WE ENDORSED A SECOND TACTICAL SUB-CONCEPT SUBMITTED TO US BY EUROLONGTERM. THIS IS THE GROUP CONCERNED WITH LONG TERM PLANNING. THIS CONCEPT IS CONCERNED WITH GROUND MOBILITY AND COUNTER-MOBILITY. I AM SURE THAT IT WILL CONTAIN LESSONS FOR THE WHOLE ALLIANCE.

5. WE SIGNED A DECLARATION ON PRINCIPLES OF CO-OPERATION IN LOGISTICS. THE TEXT IS ATTACHED TO THE COMMUNIQUE. THESE PRINCIPLES ARE COMPLEMENTARY TO THE EXISTING EUROGROUP PRINCIPLES OF CO-OPERATION IN EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING. THEY ARE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AN AGREED BASIS FOR CLOSER COLLABORATION IN LOGISTIC SUPPORT. OF COURSE, TO SIGN DECLARATIONS OF PRINCIPLES IS ONE THING; TO TRANSLATE THE FINE WORDS INTO DEEDS IS ANOTHER. BUT THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON SUPPORT FOR MARINE GAS TURBINE ENGINES, WHICH HENK VREDELING AND I INITIALED AT THE EUROGROUP MEETING, IS, I THINK A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES. AND IT IS BY NO MEANS THE ONLY ONE. AGREEMENTS OF THIS KIND WILL LEAD BOTH TO INCREASED STANDARDISATION AND TO BUDGETARY

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NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SS-15 NSC-05 ERDA-05 OIC-02 H-02 /080 W

----- 016909

R 221410Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1967

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5300

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR  
USLOSACLANT  
CINCLANT  
CINCUSAREUR  
CINCUSANAVEUR  
CINCUSAFE

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6. WE DISCUSSED A RANGE OF QUESTIONS ABOUT RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF DEFENCE EQUIPMENT. WE TOOK STOCK OF THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON MEMBER COUNTRIES' EQUIPMENT PLANS AND PROGRAMMES. WE AGREED THAT OUR ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS SHOULD PRESS ON WITH THIS IMPORTANT WORK URGENTLY.

7. WE HAD A VERY FULL AND OPEN DISCUSSION ON THE NEED TO DEVELOP A BALANCED TWO-WAY EXCHANGE BETWEEN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA ON EQUIPMENT CO-OPERATION AND STANDARDISATION. AS YOU KNOW MR CHAIRMAN, I HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH JIM SCHLESINGER ON THIS, IN MY CAPACITY AS EUROGROUP CHAIRMAN. I HOPE WE SHALL BE ABLE TO PURSUE THE QUESTION IN GREATER DETAIL LATER TODAY. FOR THE MOMENT, I WISH TO SAY THAT WE IN THE EUROGROUP ARE CONVINCED THAT IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT FOR THE WHOLE ALLIANCE THAT EUROPE SHOULD MAINTAIN A STRONG CONFIDENTIAL

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TECHNOLOGICAL AND INDUSTRIAL BASE; AND AT THE SAME TIME SHOULD ACHIEVE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE CO-OPERATION IN ARMS PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT WITH THE COUNTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA. WE FEEL THAT THE EUROGROUP HAS AN IMPORTANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE TO PLAY

FIELD; AND THAT THE ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE WILL BENEFIT FROM OUR WORK.

8. WE CONSIDERED BRIEFLY THE IMPORTANT QUESTION OF THE PEACETIME PROTECTION OF OIL RIGS AND INSTALLATIONS IN THE NORTH SEA AND SURROUNDING WATERS. THIS QUESTION WILL BE CONSIDERED AT AN AD HOC MEETING IN THE HAGUE NEXT MONTH, AT THE INVITATION OF THE NETHERLANDS AUTHORITIES, OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NORTH SEA COUNTRIES CONCERNED. WE HAVE JOINED OUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE EUROGROUP AT SOME FUTURE DATE. BUT, FOR THE TIME BEING, THE QUESTION IS NOT TO BE KEPT ON OUR AGENDA.

9. I WAS ALSO ASKED TO DRAW TO YOUR ATTENTION, MR CHAIRMAN, A QUESTION RAISED BY GEORG LEBER; THIS CONCERNS THE IMPLICATIONS FOR NATO OF THE CURRENT DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE FOR THE REAFFIRMATION OF HUMANITARIAN LAW IN ARMED CONFLICT. THE CONFERENCE IS, I UNDERSTAND, STILL STUDYING THE SUBJECT. NEVERTHELESS, WE FEEL THAT, EVEN AT THIS STAGE, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR THIS SUBJECT TO BE DISCUSSED BY OUR MINISTERS AT THE NEXT PMD MEETING TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR.

10. WE EXCHANGED VIEWS ON DEFENCE PLANNING ISSUES; AND, IN

PARTICULAR, ON THE "MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE" DOCUMENT BEFORE US TODAY. MY COLLEAGUE, HENK VREDELING, DREW PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE IMPLICATIONS FOR DEFENCE BUDGETS IF QUICKER PROGRESS IS NOT MADE IN NATO ON RATIONALISATION AND SPECIALISATION. I DARE SAY WE SHALL BE HEARING MORE ON THESE ISSUES LATER TODAY.

11. WE TOOK NOTE WITH INTEREST OF A STATEMENT BY MY COLLEAGUE ALV JAKOB FOSTERVOLL, ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN BELGIUM, DENMARK, THE NETHERLANDS SAY ON THE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE F104 AND OTHER AIRCRAFT. WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I WOULD LIKE IN A MOMENT TO HAND THE FLOOR OVER TO HIM SO THAT HE CAN INFORM US ALL OF THE LATEST POSITION WHICH MAY HAVE CHANGED SINCE

OUR MEETING IN LONDON.  
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12. MR CHAIRMAN, WE HAD A FULL AND INTERESTING MEETING IN LONDON: I SPEAK FOR ALL MY EUROGROUP COLLEAGUES WHEN I SAY SO. AND I PERSONALLY FOUND IT VERY USEFUL TO HAVE TIME TO DRAW BREATH BETWEEN OUR EUROGROUP DISCUSSION AND THE IMPORTANT DPC MEETING TODAY AND TOMORROW.

END TEXT

2. SYG LUNS THANKED MR MASON FOR HIS INTERESTING STATEMENT. HE ADDED THAT HE WAS MOST INTERESTED IN THE EUROGROUP INITIATIVE CONCERNING POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN ARMS PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE COUNTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA. THIS MATTER WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE FUTURE OF THE ALLIANCE, AND NATO MUST FIND A WAY TO MAKE PROGRESS. IN LUNS' VIEW, THE SUBJECT MUST BE A MAJOR ISSUE IN FORTHCOMING DPC WORK.

3. FOSTERVOLL (NORWAY) THEN MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

BEGIN TEXT:

IT IS NOW ONE AND A HALF YEARS SINCE THE IDEA OF A COMMON APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM OF REPLACEMENT OF THE F-104 AND OTHER AIRCRAFT WAS BORN IN THE EUROGROUP. AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AD HOC GROUP OF MINISTERS, I CAN REPORT THE FOLLOWING TO YOU.

MANY IMPORTANT EVENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE OUR MEETING IN DEMEMBER. THE MAIN THING IS THAT WE FOUR MINISTERS FROM BELGIUM, DENMARK, THE NETHERLANDS AND NORWAY HAVE COME TO THE UNANIMOUS CONCLUSION THAT ONE OF THE COMPETING AIRCRAFT, THE AMERICAN F-16, HAS UNDISPUTED ADVANTAGES OVER THE OTHER CONTENDING AIRCRAFT AS FAR AS OPERATIONAL QUALITIES AND PROGRAM COST ARE CONCERNED. WE REACHED THAT CONCLUSION AT A MEETING ON 3RD APRIL. SINCE THE MEETING THE EVALUATION

OF OTHER ASPECTS, PARTICULARLY IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC FIELD, HAS CONTINUED IN SOME COUNTRIES. THE FINAL CONCLUSION IS EXPECTED TO BE REACHED BY ALL FOUR COUNTRIES BY THE END OF THIS MONTH.

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THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY TAKEN ITS DECISION TO PROCURE 72 F-16 AIRCRAFT ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE THREE OTHER COLLABORATING COUNTRIES CHOOSE THE SAME AIRCRAFT. MY GOVERNMENT'S DECISION HAS BEEN PUT BEFORE PARLIAMENT FOR FINAL APPROVAL, WHICH I EXPECT WILL BE GIVEN BEFORE THE SUMMER RECESS IN EARLY JUNE.

I HOPE THAT SUCCESS IS NOW WITHIN REACH. WE SHOULD NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY OF FINDING A COMMON SOLUTION TO PERHAPS THE GREATEST SINGLE EQUIPMENT PROBLEM THAT SEVERAL OF OUR COUNTRIES FACE OVER THE NEXT YEARS. IT WOULD MOREOVER CREATE AN EXCELLENT BASIS FOR A STANDARDIZATION WHICH TO A MARKED DEGREE WILL IMPROVE THE OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY OF OUR ARMED FORCES.  
END TEXT  
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GENEVA  
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MBFR VIENNA  
USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR  
USLOSACLANT  
CINCLANT  
CINCUSAREUR  
CINCUSNAVEUR  
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